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Thursday, May 19, 2016 metro.us | t: MetroPhilly | f: MetroPhilly

WHY IN SUCH A HURRY TO GO HOME?

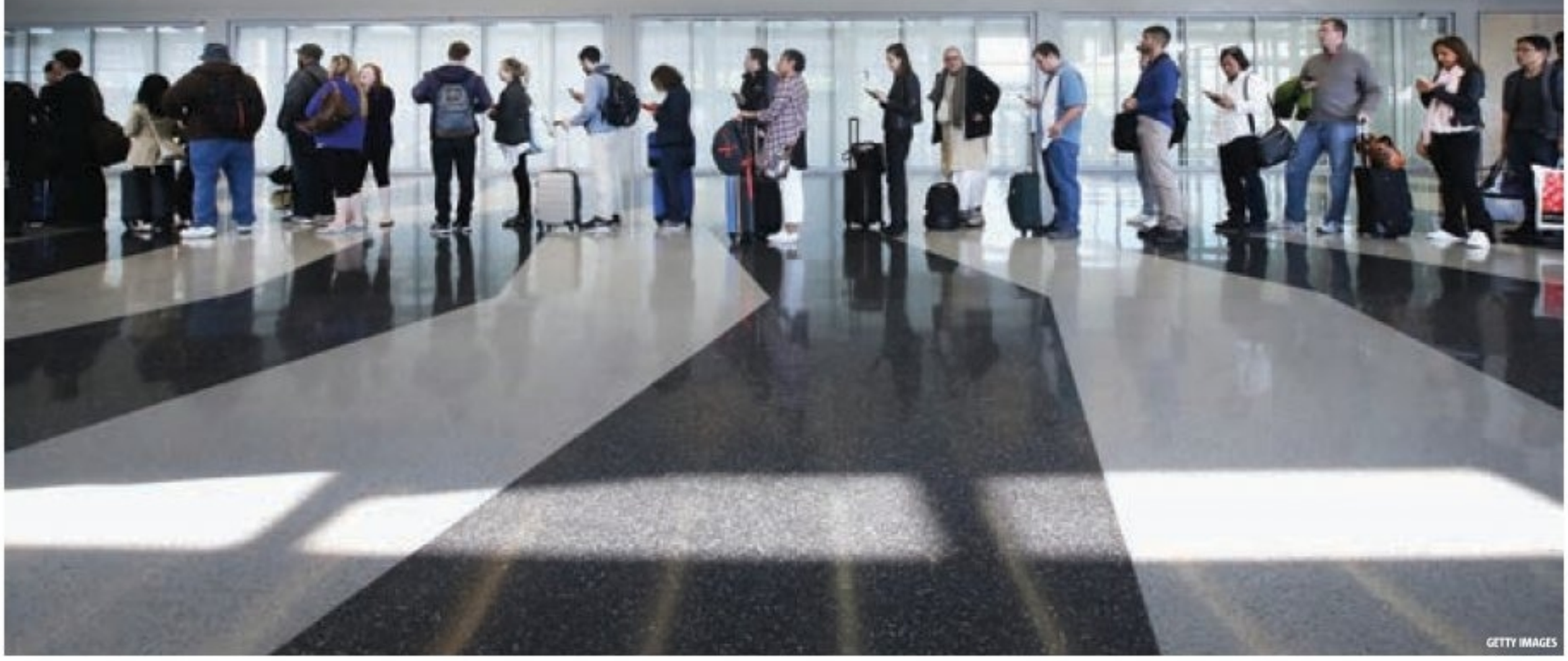
Uptown Beer Garden opens tonight. 18

Chloe Grace Moretz gets seriously funny. 15

Sixers can't afford to get No. 1 pick wrong. 20

AIRPOCALYPSE

A record number of travelers this summer are expected to snarl airports already beset by too many passengers and too few screeners inspecting more carry-on bags. 2



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3 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

ECUADOR HIT BY TWO EARTHQUAKES

Two earthquakes struck Ecuador's coast on Wednesday, causing minor injuries and light damage in the same region where a magnitude 7.8 tremor killed more than 650 people last month. Wednesday's tremors, measuring 6.7 and 6.8 in magnitude, according to the U.S. Geological Survey, cut electricity in some coastal areas and sent people running into the streets as far away as the highland capital of Quito, witnesses said. President Rafael Correa said the epicenter of the first one overnight was the fishing village of Mompiche on the Pacific coast, about 229 miles from Quito. "There are some light injuries because people ran out, or bumped into things," Correa said on state television, adding there was also some minor damage, mainly to infrastructure already hit by the April disaster. There was no tsunami warning. The second tremor struck just before midday, according to the U.S. Geological survey. REUTERS

PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGNS TARGETED

GETTY IMAGES

U.S. presidential campaigns face threats from hackers bent on espionage and other activity more nefarious than mere political mischief, the office of the U.S. National Intelligence Director James Clapper said on Wednesday, but did not provide details on specific intrusions. "We're aware that campaigns and related organizations and individuals are targeted by actors with a variety of motivations — from philosophical differences to espionage — and capabilities — from defacements to intrusions," Clapper's spokesman Brian Hale said in a statement, deferring to the FBI for details on specific incidents. REUTERS

ZIMMERMAN'S GUN AUCTIONED FOR $139K

GETTY IMAGES

Online bidding for the gun used by George Zimmerman to kill unarmed black teenager Trayvon Martin in Florida in 2012 ended on Wednesday, though it was not clear whether the final offer of $138,900 was legitimate. Zimmerman's offer to sell the Kel-Tec PF9 9mm handgun on UnitedGunGroup.com drew praise from gun rights enthusiasts and scorn from people who criticized him for seeking to profit from fatally shooting the 17-year-old. Zimmerman was acquitted of second-degree murder and manslaughter charges in the shooting, which sparked debates on race relations, gun control and American justice and provided a catalyst for the Black Lives Matter civil rights movement. In a statement on Twitter after the bidding closed, United Gun Group defended its decision to host the auction. The group said it had run simultaneous auctions for the gun, one for pre-qualified buyers and another for the public. REUTERS

Travelers strap in for record-breaking summer at US airports

An estimated 231 million passengers are expected to fly in the United States between June 1 and Aug. 31.

Security line at Philadelphia International Airport FILE PHOTO

Be prepared for a bumpy start if you're planning a vacation this summer and flying out of New York or another busy airport.

An estimated 231 million passengers, an all-time high, are expected to fly in the United States between June 1 and Aug. 31, according to Airlines for America (A4A), the industry trade organization whose members include American Airlines, United, Southwest and JetBlue.

The group foresees 2.5 million passengers per day, a prediction that would further snarl airports dealing with massive lines at security checkpoints, manned, critics say, by too few federal screeners having to inspect too many carry-on bags.

The waits at New York-area airports have gotten so out of hand that U.S. Sen. Charles Schumer has called on the Transportation Security Administration to increase the number of screeners and canine teams to speed up the lines.

"As New York City airport wait times bog down, so waits the nation," Schumer said. "New York City is a national hub, and if we can reduce the wait times here, we can make the entire country move a lot faster."

Neither Boston's nor Philadelphia's airports have seen lines like those in New York or Chicago's O'Hare International Airport, where thousands have missed flights while waiting in security lines. On Tuesday, the TSA promised to bring in additional employees to O'Hare and TSA Administrator Peter Neffenger apologized to passengers left stranded after missing flights.

At Boston's Logan Airport, wait times have been 20 minutes or less, according to Jennifer Mehigan, spokeswoman for Massport, which oversees the airport. TSA staffing has been adequate at Logan, she said, although passengers are still encouraged to arrive two hours prior to departure for domestic flights and three hours for international flights to "avoid unforeseen delays."

42K

THE TSA HAS 42,525 FRONTLINE STAFFERS THIS YEAR

10%

WHICH IS A 10% DECREASE FROM 2013

Passenger volume at Philadelphia International Airport is now approaching pre-2008 recession levels, according to spokeswoman Mary Flannery.

"At Philadelphia International Airport, our lines and our wait times are not nearly as extreme as in some other airports," Flannery said. "We have several ways in which we've been working with the airlines and the TSA to try to mitigate wait times."

Nevertheless, U.S. Sen. Bob Casey, D-Pa., issued a statement Wednesday calling for more funding to the TSA so that it can boost staffing at airport security checkpoints.

"With summer travel season quickly coming upon us, it is vital that steps be taken to reduce long lines at our airport," Casey said. "We must do everything we can to keep air travel safe, reliable, and efficient. Appropriately funding TSA will do just that."

According to Casey, the TSA has lost $250 million in funding since 2011, while the number of passengers screened in 2015 was 708 million, an increase of 40.7 million over 2014.

The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey said Wednesday that security lines are a TSA matter, but added the agency sent a letter to the TSA pointing out the need for sufficient staffing to reduce wait times.

In the letter, the Port Authority stated that the maximum average wait time at JFK International Airport between March 15 and April 15 increased 82 percent from the same period in 2015. Maximum wait times at JFK were about 55 minutes — with similar situations at LaGuardia and Newark.

The reason for the long waits at airports, according to CNN, is threefold: more travelers, budget cuts that have stripped the TSA of thousands of screeners, and passengers loading up their carry-ons to avoid airlines' fees for checked baggage.

The TSA has 42,525 frontline staffers this year — a 10 percent decrease since 2013, CNN reported. The agency is expected to try to have 768 new security officers by mid-June and current officers are being offered overtime.

"TSA's primary focus is the current threat environment, as the American transportation system remains a high value target for terrorists," the TSA said in a statement. "Our strong economy means air carriers are enjoying record travel volume, which is resulting in heavier-than-normal volumes of travelers at our nation's airports — some with double-digit increases over last summer."

To help ease the chaos at airports, the TSA recommends that passengers arrive early to the airports; prepare bags for security; be ready when entering a checkpoint line; and reach out to the agency if there are any questions.

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Key witness against Fattah in corruption trial testifies that loan was illegal

Member of longtime congressman's inner circle cooperating with prosecutors while facing 20 years in prison.

Fattah FILE PHOTO

JENNY DEHUFF
@RuffTuffDH
jenny.dehuff@metro.us

Thomas Lindenfeld, once part of Congressman Chaka Fattah's inner circle, faced his longtime friend and associate Wednesday in federal court as one of two key witnesses called by prosecutors in Fattah's RICO trial.

Sources said Lindenfeld, as well as Fattah's longtime aide and close confidant Gregory Naylor, are essentially the linchpins of the government's corruption case against Fattah.

Under direct examination by Assistant District Attorney Eric Gibson, Lindenfeld appeared calm on the witness stand, having already pleaded guilty in November 2014 to wire fraud. He has agreed to cooperate with the government in exchange for a lighter sentence. He faces up to 20 years behind bars.

During testimony Tuesday on Day 2 of the trial, Al Lord, CEO of the student loan lender Sallie Mae, testified that he lent Fattah $1 million to help push his faltering 2007 mayoral campaign over the hump.

On Wednesday, Lindenfeld said he got a call from Al Lord's assistant, two weeks before the 2007 mayoral primary, and Fattah had "some ideas with how to deal with it."

"It was going to be a loan," he said.

"Were you expected to pay it back?" Gibson asked.

"The congressman said it was no problem."

"Would you have done this if this was supposed to be repaid with your money?"

"No. I had the word of the congressman. I thought that was adequate."

> *"That's right. We spent it according to instructions from the congressman, based on how he wanted it spent on the campaign."*
>
> Lindenfield

Early on, when Lindenfeld had what he called "kitchen cabinet" conversations with Fattah, Washington, D.C., powerhouse political consultant David Axelrod, co-defendant Bonnie Bowser, and occasionally former Mayor John Street, among others, Lindenfeld said he told Fattah that he had reservations about his fundraising abilities.

In the transitioning period from "kitchen cabinet" discussions to actually creating an exploratory committee for the 2007 mayor's race, Lindenfeld wrote to Fattah, "I've razzed you about being … the least proficient fundraiser among all members of Congress."

With two weeks left until primary day in 2007, Lindenfeld, never looking at the congressman while on the stand, testified that the Fattah campaign had not spent all of Lord's money, and he was happy about that, because he knew that would mean they would have that little left to repay.

"I was resistant [to spend it]," said Lindenfeld. "The less debt, the easier to pay it back … but there was a need for money on Election Day, too."

But Lindenfeld said Fattah was in charge of the checkbook. The campaign did return some money to Lord — $400,000 was repaid.

"You knew it was illegal at the time, is that right?" Gibson asked.

"That's right. We spent it according to instructions from the congressman, based on how he wanted it spent on the campaign."

"Was there any serious effort by the congressman to get this debt repaid?"

"Not that I could tell."

The defense begins cross-examination Thursday morning.

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City: DNC protesters will be set up in FDR Park

Thousands of protesters will converge in Philly to deliver their message as international eyes are on the city.

SAM NEWHOUSE
@scnewhouse
sam.newhouse@metro.us

With the Democratic National Convention being held in the birthplace of the First Amendment, it's only natural that thousands of those coming to Philadelphia in July are coming to exercise their right of free speech.

Organizers with the Democratic National Convention Committee (DNCC) said they welcome protesters exercising their rights.

"In contrast to our counterparts in Cleveland, the Democratic Party is a party of ideas," said spokeswoman April Mellody, in a jab at the Republican National Convention, which has reportedly not yet approved a single protest application.

"We are confident that our long-term planning and unprecedented partnership with the Philadelphia Host Committee and the city of Philadelphia will ensure that the convention runs smoothly and that there are opportunities for every voice to be heard."

For some protesters, a priority is being near the DNC and being seen by elected officials and delegates. The city is planning to designate a part of FDR Park, near the Wells Fargo Center where the convention's main stage will be located, as a protest area.

"The city is setting up water and other amenities for protestors in FDR Park," said Lauren Hitt, spokeswoman for Mayor Jim Kenney.

Protesters march for a $15 minimum wage last year. CHARLES MOSTOLLER

Hitt previously acknowledged the value of allowing protesters room to voice their opinions.

"Demonstrations are an important part of every convention, and we try to be as accommodating as possible to demonstrators," she said.

The city said that seven protest permit applications are currently pending.

There are five Bernie Sanders-related protest applications, including from Black Men for Bernie and the Equality Coalition for Bernie Sanders, as well as an art installation called the American Dream Project by two Brooklyn artists and environmentalist group Global Zero's "Race to Zero" protest.

Black Lives Matter organizers are expected to protest as well.

The first group to be granted a permit is the "March for a Clean Energy Revolution." Participants will march from City Hall to Independence Mall on July 24, several miles from the main stage of the convention and a day before it formally begins.

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Uber and PSPCA bringing puppies to Philly offices

Want to cheer up your co-workers? Show them some unadulterated puppy love.

The Pennsylvania SPCA, in partnership with Uber, will once again be bringing adorable puppies to offices around Philadelphia this week to hopefully find homes for the dogs and provide stress relief for overworked employees.

For $30, your company can get 15 minutes of "pawsome playtime" with the pups at offices in Philly, Conshohocken, Cherry Hill and King of Prussia.

All fees will go directly toward the PSPCA, which is 100 percent donor-funded.

Uber and the PSPCA previously brought puppies to offices in August 2015 — leading to 11 puppies being adopted and $1,500 being raised for the PSPCA. A similar event with kittens in October 2015 resulted in 21 adopted kittens and raised $4,000, the PSPCA said.

"The best part of these partnership days is bringing moments of joy to animal lovers throughout the city, and ultimately finding homes for the puppies," PSPCA CEO Jerry Buckley said in a statement. "This day often extends into increased adoptions for all of our animals — kittens, adult cats, puppies and adult dogs — a wonderful side effect of Uber's reach."

Ann and Elsa the puppies PROVIDED

SAM NEWHOUSE

How it works

Here's how Thursday's event works:

1. Open the Uber app between 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Thursday, May 19.

2. Request the PUPPIES option. Puppies can only be delivered to offices, no private residences.

3. Once the puppies arrive, you get 15 minutes of puppy love. The PSPCA says to: "Make sure to have an enclosed space ready for puppy playtime and make sure no other animals are in the area."

4. In love yet? All puppies are eligible for adoption at the PSPCA Erie Avenue location from 3-7 p.m. that day.

"All you need to do is open the app, hit request and get ready for a doggone good time," said Jon Feldman, Uber Pennsylvania's general manager, in a statement. "We expect demand to be high, so if you don't get a pup right away, please sit patiently and keep barking."

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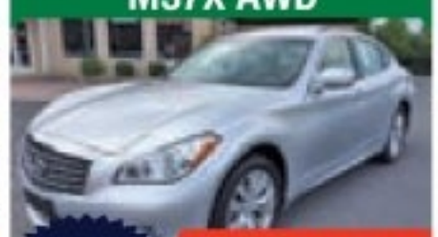
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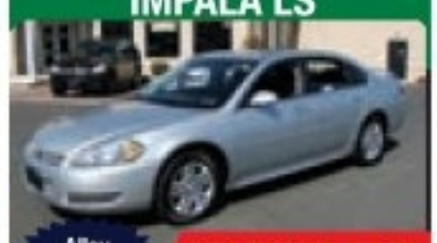
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Councilwoman Maria Quinones-Sanchez speaks with protestors concerned by her opposition to the mayor's proposed soda tax legislation. CHARLES MOSTOLLER

Action United storms City Hall with soda tax demands

City Councilwoman Maria Quinones Sanchez targeted by protesters who interrupted hearing on school budget then marched to her office.

JENNY DEHUFF
@RuffTuffDH
jenny.dehuff@metro.us

The activist group Action United interrupted a City Council school district budget hearing Wednesday by chanting, "Say no to big soda!" and pumping signs in the air.

After being escorted from City Council chambers by City Hall security, they marched to City Councilwoman Maria Quinones Sanchez's office to demand she "take the pledge" and side with Mayor Jim Kenney and his proposed three-cent-per-ounce tax on sugary beverages.

Action United members said Wednesday they want Sanchez, who has come out against the soda tax, to join them in advocating for it. They claim the levy will benefit community schools, parks and recreation centers and universal pre-K, for which Kenney has earmarked the tax.

"Behind the simple fact that Councilwoman Maria Quinones Sanchez has been accepting money (from soda companies), we wanted her to take the pledge because we know that she has accepted over $50,000 over the last five years," said Tyrone Ferguson, a spokesman for Action United.

Asked why Action United singled out Sanchez, when other council members have also spoken out against the soda tax, including Councilman Al Taubenberger, Councilwoman Jannie Blackwell, and maybe more, Ferguson said Action United was "coming after the rest of them."

"We just want [them] to take the pledge … because Mayor Kenney has offered to give $500 million dollars toward communities for pre-K, for community schools, for parks and rec centers, and for all that greenery."

When the protesters reached her office, Sanchez offered them water and heard them out before addressing their concerns.

"For the last eight years, I have been a proponent of everything education, so I absolutely support pre-K work," she said.

"But in my new role as chair of the committee of appropriations on Council, I have a responsibility to look at a $4 billion budget, and the only difference I have with the mayor is that I think the $50 million he needs to get started can be found within his budget.

"I'm not going to step away from the fact that I have a relationship with Coca-Cola. I have 435 jobs there. A lot of the folks that work there live in my community of Juniata and they feel just as passionate as you about my coming to their defense. No one disagrees with the priorities of the mayor. I think how we get there is what's called a budget process. I will continue to work with the administration — as I have for the last eight years — to find a way."

"We just want them to take the pledge"

Ferguson

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RACE FOR THE WHITE HOUSE

Clinton, Sanders hit final stretch of White House nominating contest

Democratic presidential candidates Sen. Bernie Sanders and Hillary Clinton. GETTY IMAGES

After splitting wins in contests Tuesday, Democrats Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders head into the final stretch of a longer-than-expected and sometimes acrimonious battle to represent their party in November's White House election.

Clinton narrowly edged out Sanders in Kentucky, a state where she had not been expected to win. Sanders won Oregon, a state that played to his strengths.

The protracted fight for the Democratic nomination has boiled over into strife in recent days, prompting party leaders to weigh in and urge unity.

The next contests will be held June 7, including in the delegate-heavy states of California and New Jersey, with the final contest in Washington, D.C., on June 14.

While Clinton is expected to win the party nomination, Tuesday's divided outcome means she is still more than 100 delegates short of sealing the deal and so cannot turn her attention fully to the general election and taking on presumptive Republican nominee Donald Trump.

In Kentucky, the two candidates will likely split the 55 delegates up for grabs. In Oregon, Sanders will take only a handful more of the 61 delegates that were awarded.

Trump, who locked up his party's nomination after the rest of his rivals dropped out in early May, has begun to organize his campaign for the Nov. 8 election. On Tuesday, he signed a joint fundraising agreement with the Republican National Committee. The agreement allows him to raise $449,400 from a single donor by splitting the funds between his campaign, the RNC and state Republican parties.

Trump, a billionaire real estate developer, had so far insisted on mostly self-funding his campaign, and the shift to a more traditional fundraising approach could anger some of his supporters.

In an interview on Fox News on Tuesday night, Trump said he had some regrets about his actions during the Republican primary process, in which he beat 16 rivals, showering insults on most of them along the way.

Nevada still rankles

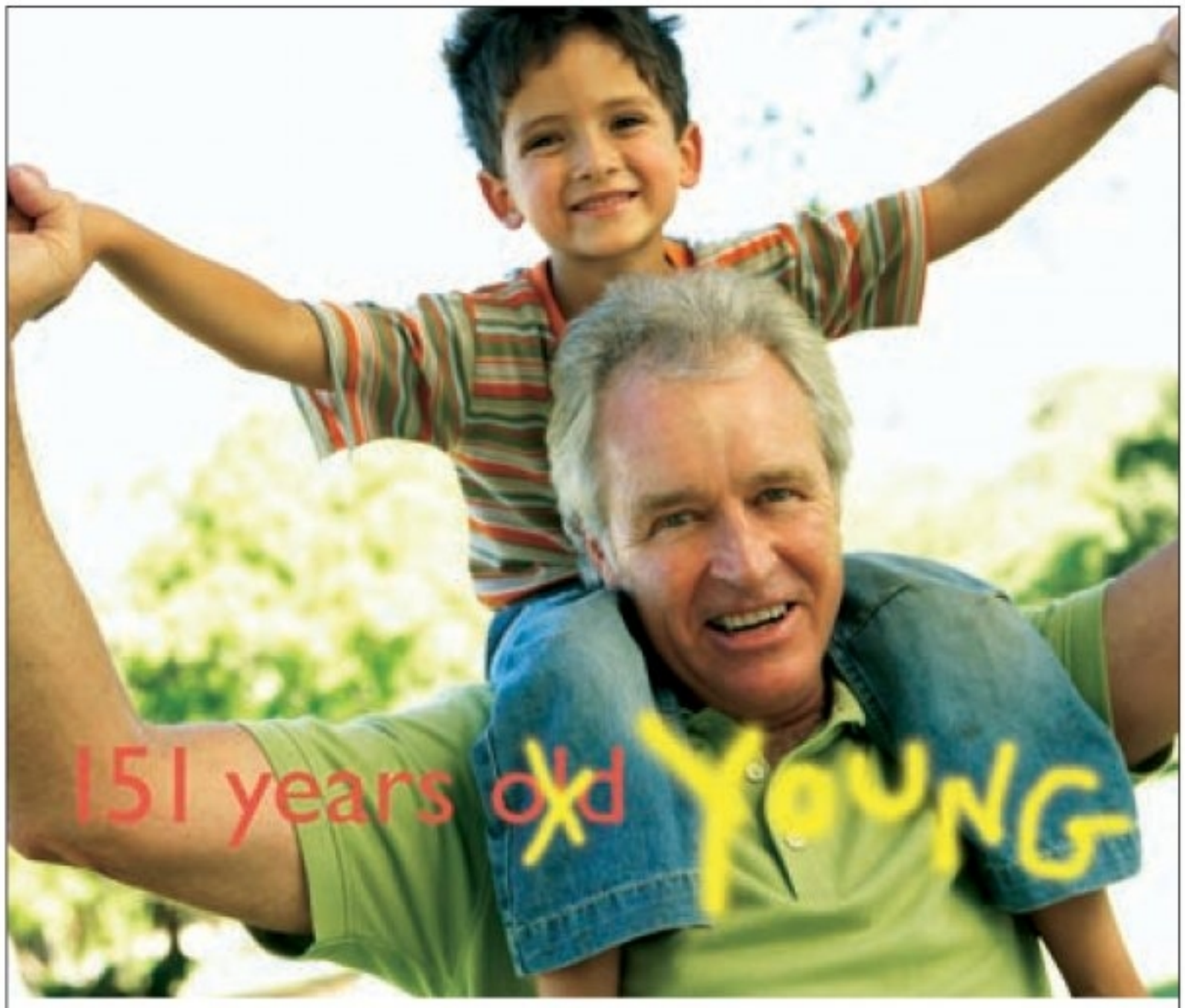
On the Democratic side, both candidates' camps kept up a dispute Tuesday after violent outbursts by Sanders supporters ended the Nevada Democratic convention over the weekend.

Sanders supporters were angered when Nevada state party officials chose to end their convention and block efforts to award the senator from Vermont more delegates than he initially won in the February caucus. Clinton won the caucus.

One Sanders supporter threw a chair. Others daubed chalk graffiti on a party building. Some circulated a picture of the state party chairwoman, Roberta Lange, online with her cellphone number and encouraged others to complain.

Lange said she and her family had received death threats, including a voicemail message saying "people like you should be hung in a public execution."

On Wednesday, Democratic National Committee Debbie Wasserman Schultz slammed such actions and called for civility. "We have a process set up that is eminently fair," she told CNN. "No one should be subjected to death threats." REUTERS



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US extends overtime pay to 4.2 million salaried workers

The Obama administration Tuesday unveiled the final version of a long-awaited and controversial rule to extend overtime pay to 4.2 million U.S. workers, marking one of the administration's most significant moves to address stagnant wages.

The rule, which has drawn intense criticism from business groups and Republicans, doubles the maximum annual income a salaried worker can earn and still be automatically eligible for overtime pay from $23,660 to $47,476 and requires that threshold to be updated every three years. It takes effect Dec. 1.

Officials said many workers will earn more money, an estimated total of $12 billion over the next decade, while others will work fewer hours for the same pay.

"More than 4 million workers are either going to be paid more or get

President Obama's overtime-pay rule faces opposition from congressional Republicans. GETTY IMAGES

time back to raise their family, go to school or retrain to get a better job," Vice President Joe Biden said during a phone call with reporters Tuesday.

The rule will likely touch nearly every sector of the U.S. economy but is expected to have the greatest impact on nonprofit groups, retail companies, hotels and restaurants, which have many management workers whose salaries are below the new threshold.

Business groups, which lobbied heavily against the changes, say companies will be forced to cut wages and hours and may slow hiring.

The Obama administration and supporters of the rule say the $23,660 threshold allowed companies to hold down labor costs by requiring workers with relatively low incomes to work well over 40 hours a week without additional pay.

The rule will likely face legal challenges, including claims the U.S. Labor Department flouted legal requirements for creating new regulations. Republicans in Congress have said they will move to block the rule, but they would need to overcome a veto from President Barack Obama. REUTERS

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Google unveils Home, device to compete with Amazon's Echo

Google Home's competition, the Amazon Echo, is being shown by Amazon Echo Vice President Mike George. GETTY IMAGES

Google unveiled its answer to Amazon's Alexa virtual assistant along with new messaging and virtual reality products at its annual I/O developer conference Wednesday, doubling down on artificial intelligence and machine learning as the keys to its future.

Google CEO Sundar Pichai introduced Google Assistant, a virtual personal assistant designed to perform voice-controlled tasks, along with the tabletop speaker appliance Google Home.

Amazon's Echo, a surprise hit that has other tech giants racing to match it, uses a virtual assistant called Alexa, a cloud-based system that controls the Echo speaker and responds to voice-controlled commands by users.

Like Alexa, Google Assistant can search the internet and adjust your schedule. However, Pichai said Google Assistant can use images and other information to provide more-intuitive results.

"You can be in front of this structure in Chicago and ask Google who designed this and it will understand in this context that the name of that designer is Anish Kapoor," said Pichai, pointing toward a photo of Chicago's Cloud Gate sculpture.

For Google Home, the Google Assistant merges with Chromecast and smart home devices to control televisions, thermostats and other products. It will also connect to Google's new Allo messaging App, which is scheduled for release this summer.

Allo, a rival to Facebook's WhatsApp and other messaging services, will feature end-to-end encryption.

Google did not offer a release date or pricing for Google Home, saying only that it will be available later this year.

REUTERS

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Mariah Carey shoots down wedding circus rumors

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Mariah Carey has never done anything small. What's the opposite of outlandish? Because that's the opposite of Mariah Carey. But that doesn't mean everything you read about her upcoming wedding to billionaire James Packer is gospel. For instance, all this talk of her having basically a live circus at her big day? Hogwash! "No, that really made me mad. These people really want to tell me I want endangered animals at my wedding?" she tells Andy Cohen. "I mean, I have several dogs. I'm such an animal lover and such an advocate for animals that I'm like, really? That's what I'm going to do? Have like, endangered species? Should I make coats from them all? What else should we do?" Are you seriously asking? Because I might have some suggestions.

Eva Longoria is tying the knot this weekend

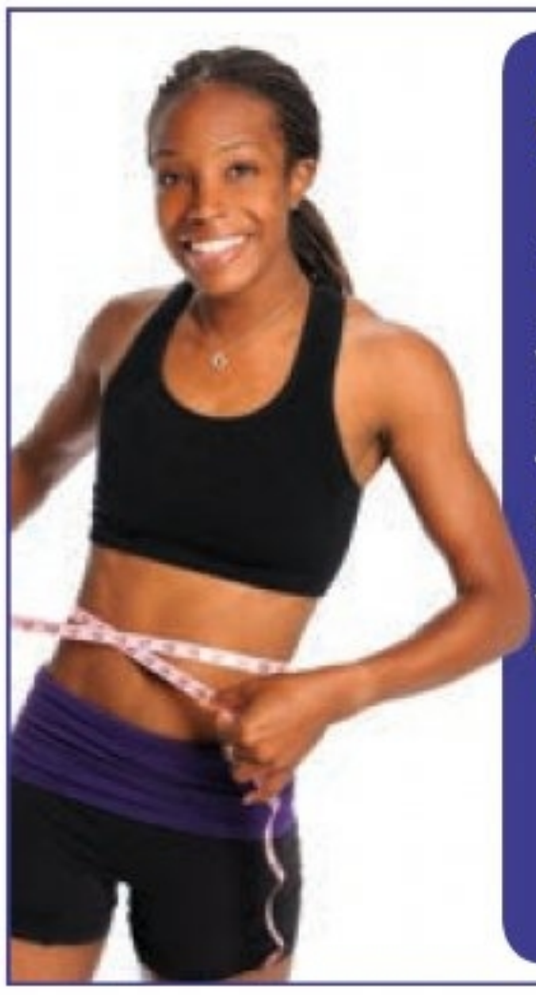
Eva Longoria and superhandsome fiance Jose Antonio "Pepe" Baston are going to have one heck of a weekend, as the couple is reportedly set to tie the knot south of the border. "Eva and Pepe are going to have a huge beach wedding in Mexico and it will be very lavish," a source tells Radar Online. "Both of their families will be there, as well as all of their close friends and loved ones. She was glowing all week. Everyone around her really likes Pepe and feels like he is the perfect fit for Eva." So I guess we're going to have to call her Eva Longoria Baston now?

Zac Efron has very high nudity standards

Hoping to catch a glimpse of Zac Efron baring all? Well, you better have a prestigious script for him, because it's going to take some potential for awards glory for him to show off Little Troy. (Yes, I'm just going to assume he named his junk after his "High School Musical" role.) "Let's just say I'm not opposed to anything," he tells Elle magazine. "But if you're going to pull your d— out, it'd better be for an Academy Award-winning movie." If only the Academy worked like that. Anyway, here's to hoping he finds what he's looking for.

Robin Wright knows how to negotiate

Clearly some of that Claire Underwood mojo is rubbing off on "House of Cards" star Robin Wright — at least when it comes to salary negotiation. "I was like, 'I want to be paid the same as Kevin,'" Wright says of recent talks she had with her Netflix bosses. "Claire Underwood's character was more popular than [Frank's] for a period of time. So I capitalized on it. I was like, 'You better pay me or I'm going to go public.' And they did." Damn straight.



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Chloe Grace Moretz thinks feminism can be funny

Want to feel old? Ask Chloe Grace Moretz about things that make her feel old. The 19-year-old actress brings new energy to "Neighbors 2: Sorority Rising," which this time finds young parents Seth Rogen and Rose Byrne terrorized by a house of girls, not fratboys. Moretz plays the new clan's fearless leader: a freshman with some new ideas about a girl's right to party.

First of all, the approach to feminist issues in this is pretty impressive, especially for a raunchy comedy.
That's what was always very interesting. Comedy always hits harder when you take on very real and modern-day issues and you disguise them under the guise of levity and comedy. It was a cool opportunity to try my hand at comedy and work with some of the comedic geniuses of our generation — and also be a part of a very big societal conversation going on right now and try to influence some people in the right direction.

GETTY IMAGES

Why is it so hard for some people to comprehend the idea that women can just wear whatever they want to wear?
No, totally. Growing up in this day and age, it's always been an issue thrust on women, so I think it's nice to do something as simple as that. With these parties, these girls think that they're trying to be someone that they didn't need to be. They realize that they end up being happier and more successful and they have more friends when they just be themselves and do what they want and wear what they want and just be who they are. That's something a lot of people are still afraid to do, but it's a very simple concept.

So how many obnoxious questions about the college experience — or a lack thereof — have you gotten while promoting this?
Oh, tons. Hundreds of them. "How many sorority parties have you been to? What do you know about sororities? You never went to college! How do you know anything about college?" [Laughs]

What makes her feel old

It's mildly terrifying that Zac Efron's character realizes he's "old" now in this film. Were there any discussions on set that involved the word "millennial"?
Oh, definitely. I always joke about the word "millennial" and what that entails and what that means. Honestly, I'm only 19, but when I try to talk to a 12-year-old I have no way of being able to stay in the conversation or understand what apps they're talking about or anything like that. I thought I was quick at doing social media and being on my phone, but talk to a 12-year-old for five seconds. It makes me feel old, which is weird.

How do you humor that kind of invasive questioning?
It's just one of those things you kind of have to take in stride. Some people just don't know the life I come from or why I didn't go to college, so I just try to not be annoyed or biased or rude.

I don't think playing a freshman in college is that much of a stretch for you, really.
Right, it's not a totally foreign concept. [Laughs] It wasn't that big of a stretch. I mean, no, I didn't go to college exactly, and I never went to high school, really, or anything like that. But it's definitely not hard to imagine what it would be like if I had. NED EHRBAR

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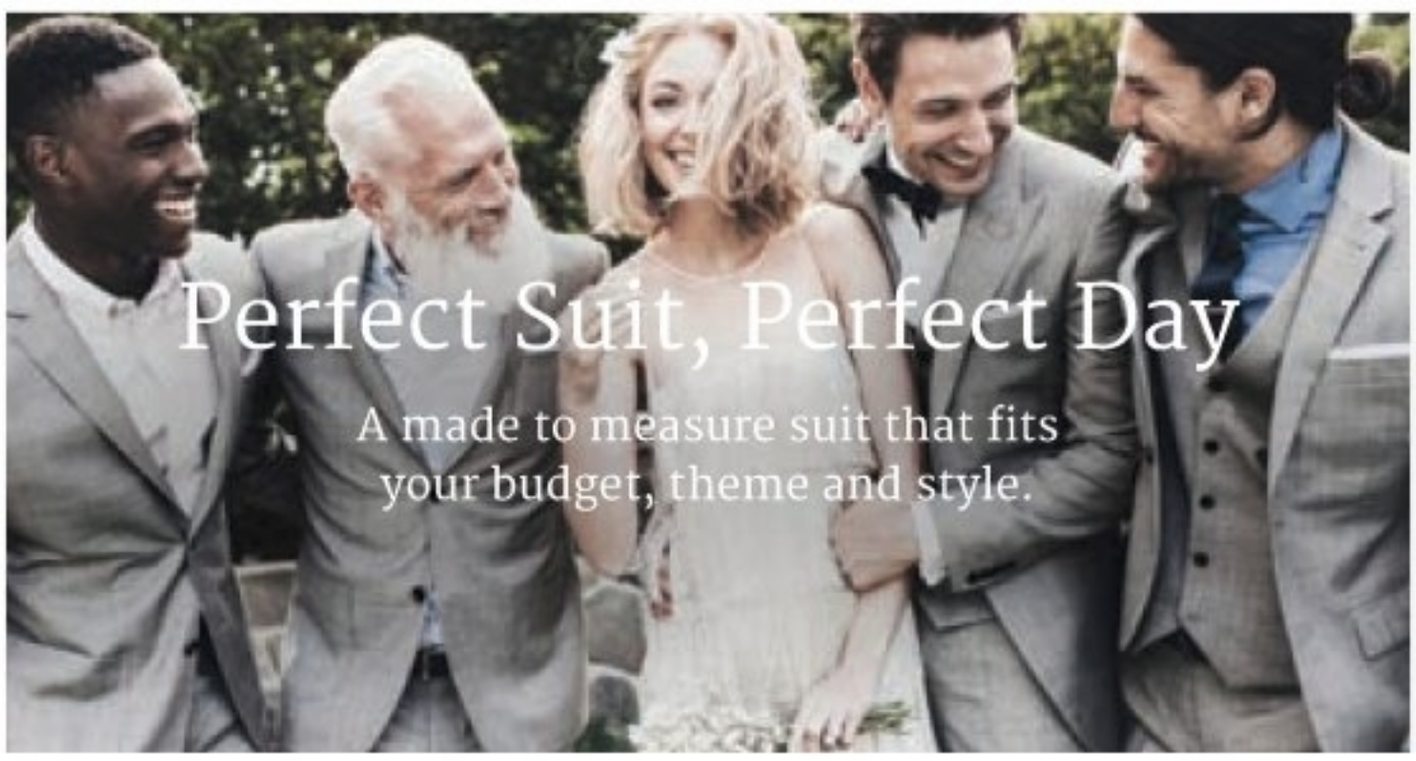

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Please don't remake "Ferris Bueller's Day Off" — or if you do, please don't make it edgy. PARAMOUNT PICTURES

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Geek Girl in Hollywood

JENNA BUSCH
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I'd just gotten off a 13-hour flight before sitting down to write this column. I travel a lot, yet have never gotten over being in a tiny metal tube in the sky. After a while, I start to get a bit claustrophobic. I know lots of you watch new releases on the in-flight entertainment system. I have to watch old films. This time around I watched "Dirty Rotten Scoundrels," "Ferris Bueller's Day Off" and "Groundhog Day."

It got me thinking (to distract myself until the crappy food comes) about these kinds of movies. There really is something soothing about '80s/early-'90s films. You could never make them today. (Oh God, Hollywood, please don't try. Please? I'm begging you, don't remake "Ferris"!) There is an innocence about them — even ones that are about terrible human beings — that today's studio system just wouldn't allow.

Now, I'm not saying they hold up. I'm not sure a teenager would get any pleasure out of "Groundhog Day." Maybe they'd like "Ferris," but even that is a bit wide-eyed for today's youth.

Heck, even I don't think it's the best movie. If they tried to remake it (again: please, please don't), they'd try for a "dark" or "edgy" angle, or have it address social issues of some sort. Can you imagine edgy Ferris Bueller?

A light touch might be key. I never thought of Bill Murray in "Groundhog Day" as a person. I never thought of Andie MacDowell's character as an actual human being. (She'd make me vomit if she were real. "Drink to world peace"? Seriously?) I thought of them as magical creatures of the big screen. They were cartoons. You can't do that now. Everything has to be "real." You have to relate to everyone on screen. They weren't aspirational or more charming than real life people.

I don't think getting away from that is a bad thing. We tell better stories now. I'm just saying that, after reading the news and the complaining on Twitter all day, movies like these are warm, soft blankets that got me through a very long day.

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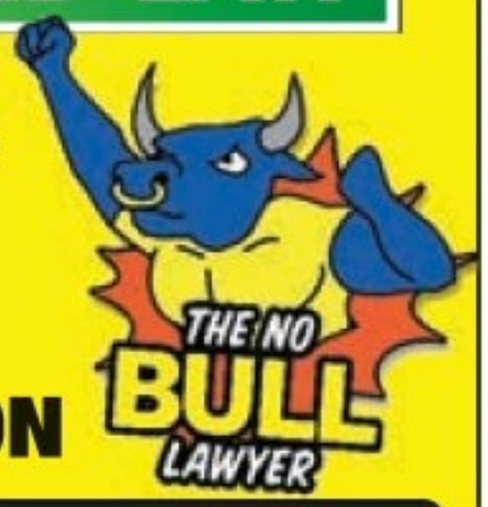

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JEFF FUSCO

FESTIVALS

Italian Market Street Festival

May 21-22, 11 a.m.-6 p.m.
Italian Market
9th Street between Washington and Christian streets
Free
For two days, the Italian Market will be packed to the gills with revelers enjoying a time-honored tradition in South Philly. The festival is a must-do for food lovers. There will be tasty offerings from all your favorite Italian Market vendors — from sweets to savories and everything in between. Live music and some of the best people-watching this side of the Trastevere is just icing on the Italian wedding cake.

Trenton Avenue Arts Festival and Kinetic Sculpture Derby

May 21, noon-6 p.m.
Kensington
Trenton and E. Susquehanna avenues
Free
Philadelphia has its share of quirky traditions, but perhaps none more so than the Kinetic Sculpture Derby. Nerds of all ages craft zany parade vehicles and then cruise them down the street for eager spectators to admire. The derby happens simultaneously with the Trenton Avenue Arts Festival, where East Kensington artists, merchants and restaurateurs bring their goods onto the street for guests to peruse and buy. It's a blast of a day celebrating the creative spirit of this eclectic 'hood.

Rittenhouse Row Spring Festival

May 21, noon-5 p.m.
Rittenhouse Square
Walnut Street between Broad and 19th streets
Free
Rittenhouse Row will be closed to traffic Saturday afternoon for the shopping enclave's annual spring festival. Organizers expect a crowd of 50,000 or more to show up to shop local boutiques, grab some bites from neighborhood restaurants and dance in the street to live bands and DJs.

Wheat Beer Fest

May 21, noon-8 p.m.
Point Breeze Pop-Up
1622 Point Breeze Ave.
Free
Block party vibes will be flowing at Point Breeze Pop-Up on Saturday, which opens for the season with South Philly Tap Room's 11th annual Wheat Beer Fest. There you'll find 40-plus craft beers and ciders poured all day long. Grub comes courtesy of food trucks Bombay Local and BrazBQ, and American Sardine Bar chef Doreen Demarco will be flipping dogs on the grill. New Sound Brass Band and rock group Marah will keep things lively with concerts at 3 p.m. and 5 p.m., respectively.

PERFORMING ARTS

Philadelphia Burlesque Festival

May 19-22
Various times, locations and prices
Tassels will be spinning all over town this weekend during the second annual Philadelphia Burlesque Festival. The event brings performers from Philly and around the country to venues around the city for titillating performances, and even a handful of workshops teaching wannabee burlesquers how to let their inner shimmy shine. There's an after party happening every night of the festival at Franky Bradley's starting at 11 p.m. Show your festival ticket for free entry.

Philly POPS: Cirque Goes to the Movies

May 20-22
The Kimmel Center
300 S. Broad St.
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Symphonic music and the circus arts converge for this evening of rousing tunes and acrobatics courtesy of Philly POPS and Cirque. The orchestra will play music from films like "Star Wars," "Harry Potter," "James Bond" and more while Cirque performers fly overhead, juggle strange objects and tackle other tricks sure to have your mouth agape the entire time.

JOSHUA MIDDLETON

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Uptown Beer Garden is back, bigger and better

Featuring twice the seating and a menu from chef Jonathan Petruce, the seasonal pop-up is more than ready for Round 2.

MONICA WEYMOUTH
@MetroPhilly
letters@metro.us

Uptown Beer Garden didn't have the smoothest debut last summer. Shortly after opening to enormous crowds — turns out, Center City was *thirsty* for an open-air happy hour — it fell prey to L&I red tape during a crackdown on pop-up bars.

"We didn't know what to expect — we got thrown to the wolves. We had 3,500 people the first day," says Teddy Sourias, owner of Uptown as well as hotspots BRU Craft & Wurst, U-Bahn and the soon-to-open Cinder. "And nobody knows anything at L&I. You go in there, and they act like they don't even know why they're there. But we have things figured out this time."

Chef Jonathan Petruce

The Uptown's roast pork sandwich includes pork shoulder cured overnight, broccoli rabe and long hot on a steak roll.

ALL PHOTOS KORY AVERSA

Opening tonight, this summer's Uptown features twice the seating and a third bar to accommodate the 9,000-square-foot space. A new outdoor grill will be manned by veteran chef Jonathan Petruce, who's serving an upscale, street food-inspired menu of portable snacks and sandwiches. In addition to Turkish chicken skewers, lobster rolls and Spanish octopus, he's got the Philly classics covered — although, no, there's no faux-orange whiz on this cheesesteak, whose roll is slathered in beef fat rendered from marrow bones.

"Everything is made right here — we stuff our own sausage, we roast our own pork. It's kind of like going to a barbecue … only at my house," says Petruce with a laugh.

True to its origins, Uptown has the brews covered with a rotating selection of seasonal craft cans and an impressive draft list featuring the Uptown IPA, an exclusive from Pennsylvania's own Pizza Boy Brewing. That said, don't expect any craft beer snobbery. "We might be beer garden, but we have two margarita machines — the mack daddy ones, the big guys," says Sourias. "We're ready."

If you go

Uptown Beer Garden opens for the season tonight at 1735 JFK Boulevard. On Wednesday, May 25, swing by for the Center City Sips Preview Party (5-7 p.m.) featuring specially priced drinks and snacks, tastings and samples. Hours are Monday-Tuesday, 4-9 p.m.; Wednesday-Friday, 2 p.m.-midnight; Saturday and Sunday, private events only.

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Beyond the Forbidden City

There's plenty to see in the Chinese capital of Beijing.

Fodor's Travel

Chinese New Year's party at Confucius Temple GETTY IMAGES

Given its size (more than 21 million inhabitants) and history (three millennia and counting), Beijing can seem like an overwhelming destination to visit. We've made things a little easier for you.

798 Arts District

Anyone with even a slight interest in Chinese contemporary art should get a firsthand look at the scene at the bustling 798 Art District. Old buildings were transformed into galleries, studios, art centers, restaurants and bars.

Beihai Park

Northwest of the Forbidden City, Beihai Park is home to Beijing's largest and most beautiful public lake. All you need to do to enjoy the park is stroll around or rent one of the paddle boats that fill the lake on summer weekends. If you wish to see the cultural sights, check out Yongan Temple, from which you can climb to the white stupa perched atop a small island in the lake.

Confucius Temple

Built in 1302, the Confucius Temple pays tribute to China's greatest sage and his lasting legacy. The temple complex has been combined with the adjacent Imperial Academy, once the highest educational institution in the country, where government officials were trained to master the Confucian classics.

Panjiayuan Antiques Market

Also known as the Dirt Market, Panjiayuan Antiques Market is home to surprisingly orderly open-air stalls where more than 3,000 vendors hawk Cultural Revolution memorabilia, artwork, curio cabinets, jade dragons, jewelry and more. You'll need to bargain aggressively to get a fair price.

Eastern Qing Tombs

Northeast of Beijing, in Hebei province, lie the tombs of Qing Dynasty emperors, nine of which are open to the public. Not to be missed is Yuling, the final resting place of Qianlong, the Qing's most powerful sovereign — exquisite carvings of Buddhist imagery adorn the walls and ceiling.

Great Wall of China

Given its proximity to Beijing, the Great Wall of China is an essential part of any visit to the Chinese capital. Only an hour by car from downtown Beijing, the Great Wall at Badaling is great if you're short on time and seeking out postcard-ready restored sections. Nearby, the Great Wall at Juyongguan is equally popular. Farther afield, the Great Wall at Mutianyu is significantly less crowded and the views are stunning.

Hutongs

In an earlier era, most of central Beijing was filled with hutong (alleyway) residences, but over time more and more have disappeared. If you're looking to explore on your own, the area surrounding Drum Tower is a good start; or arrange a tour with Beijing Sideways, which carts guests around the alleyways in the sidecar of a vintage motorbike.

Lama Temple

Originally built as a temple for Prince Yongzheng, who went on to become the third Qing Dynasty emperor, Lama Temple is one of the most important functioning Buddhist temples in Beijing, with five splendid main halls and multiple galleries hung with scroll paintings.

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Sixers can't afford to make mistake with first overall pick

Winning the NBA's top draft pick was great, but it will be meaningless if they take the wrong player.

ANDY JASNER
@AndyJasner
sports@metro.us

For the next month, the Sixers will decide whether to go with Brandon Ingram or Ben Simmons at No. 1. GETTY IMAGES

Three consecutive seasons of wretched basketball finally helped the 76ers.

In a major way.

The last two years were a harsh lesson when the pingpong balls bounced at No. 3 in back-to-back seasons for Joel Embiid and Jahlil Okafor. The injury-prone Embiid has yet to play one second in the league while Okafor showed plenty of ability but a lack of maturity off the court.

At some point, the Sixers had to be destined for the top pick, right? Well, it finally worked out.

Since the Los Angeles Lakers' pick came in at No. 2, it stays there. If it had landed outside the top three, it would have gone to the Sixers. That pick is top three protected in '17 but unprotected in '18. So there's another bright light looming in the future.

For now, the Sixers are likely to select either LSU's Ben Simmons or Duke's Brandon Ingram. Either player would be a gargantuan upgrade for a roster desperate for more young talent.

The Sixers also own the No. 24 and 26 picks in the draft giving them additional pieces.

Getting that No. 1 overall spot is the key.

Remember Allen Iverson in 1996? The Answer didn't lead the Sixers to a championship but came pretty darn close in '01 against the Lakers. Had Iverson been surrounded with a bit more talent, a title just may have been won. Iverson is headed for the Hall of Fame, so it's impossible to argue with that pick.

Projecting Simmons or Ingram 12 to 15 years from now is difficult. Both players look mighty impressive and their chances of seeing dividends from a top pick are increased.

Sure, there are a litany of players taken deep in the first round — and even in the second round — who have turned out to be All-Stars.

If there's a choice between No. 14 or No. 1 in the lottery, you want the top choice. Every time. It's a no-brainer.

> 3
> THIS WILL BE THE THIRD NO. 1 OVERALL PICK IN SIXERS' HISTORY. THE TWO PLAYERS PREVIOUSLY TAKEN WERE ALLEN IVERSON AND DOUG COLLINS.

Going through a 10-win season was brutal in every way imaginable. The losses took its toll on the players and really the whole organization.

This is a start.

The draft, coupled with the potential return of Embiid as well as Dario Saric, will help improve the talent. Maybe a free agent or two sees what the Sixers are doing under new management — Bryan Colangelo — and wants to be part of a special rebuild.

No more 1-30 stretches. No more running D-League players in and out nonstop. No more 60 — and 70-plus loss seasons. Colangelo said from the beginning that he's determined to turn their fortune around.

That fortune was helped by a ping pong ball finally bouncing their way. It was a matter of time.

The goal now is to do their homework and make the right pick. They can't make a mistake here.

Looking at the draft board, this looks to be a winner. Since advancing to the Eastern Conference semifinals and falling to the Boston Celtics in seven games, the Sixers have done nothing but lose.

There are so many hurdles ahead, but winning the draft lottery is a heck of a strong way to open their offseason.

Let the fun begin between now and the draft.

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Pursuant to the Pennsylvania Self Storage Act Pennsylvania Statues, 73, Chapter 26, 1901 et seq., A Public Auction Will take Place on 5/24/16 at the below listed Public Storage Facilities for the follow units/Tenants. The Contents of which shall satisfy the Owners Lien. Public Storage Located At, 6301 Tacony St Philadelphia PA 19135 at 12:00 PM (215) 333-3138.
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Bourjos finds 'peace of mind' with Phillies

Peter Bourjos has been a much needed veteran presence in the Phillies' outfield this season.

KYLE PHILLIPPI
@MetroPhilly
sports@metro.us

Peter Bourjos admits the past few seasons have been a tough pill to swallow. The 29-year-old went from being an apparent building block in Anaheim to struggling to find playing time in St. Louis. A change of scenery was needed.

Did he expect to be an everyday starter from Day 1 in Philadelphia?

"I didn't know," Bourjos said. "You just want to come in and win playing time in spring training and go from there. Obviously the last two years I haven't played a whole lot. You just got to earn your at bats and hope you play well enough to stick and have them keep putting you out there."

Through 40 games, Bourjos has started 37 times in right field (and in center during Wednesday's win against Miami). That makes coming to the ballpark a much more enjoyable time.

"It gives you some peace of mind," Bourjos said. "That's something I haven't had in a long time. Not that you forget what that's like, but in a sense you kind of do because my role has changed the last three years where you don't come to the field expecting to be in the lineup."

His defensive ability has made him a stalwart in the Phillies lineup, but his bat was lagging behind early on. Since the start of May, though, Bourjos has upped his average over .200 after hitting an unimpressive .164 in April. He has a .268 average in 15 games this month.

"I think the swing is staying in the zone a little bit longer," Bourjos said. "Some days it's been there and some days it hasn't. I think it's slowly going in the direction."

Part of the reason for his slow start to the season was his new position. He spent his whole career playing center field until the Phillies opted to move him to right field. Bourjos says the transition is coming along quicker now that he's understanding the "angles and the walls" better.

"The more I play, the more comfortable I'm getting," Bourjos said.

Between the three outfielder starters, though, Bourjos is the most experienced of the trio.

He remembers when he came into the league and guys like Torii Hunter and Vernon Wells took him under their wing in Anaheim. He hopes to do the same for his new running mates.

"I just try to help them out with anything I see," Bourjos said. "As a game goes, if you see something you try to help them out and pass that information along."

Bourjos is the senior member of the Phillies' outfield corps. GETTY IMAGES

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Notice is hereby given that **Prime Group Storage** located at 4391 Aramingo Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19124, will sell listed units at public auction to satisfy the lien of the owner, The units will be sold online at www.StorageTreasures.com and this auction will end **May 24,** 2016 at 10:00 AM. The personal property belonging to:

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CASH FOR DIABETES TEST STRIPS
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Payment Made SAME-DAY We Receive Your Strips!
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Edens Transit
Call Edens Transit Monday-Friday
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For Diabetic Test Strips
$50-100ct - $25-50ct
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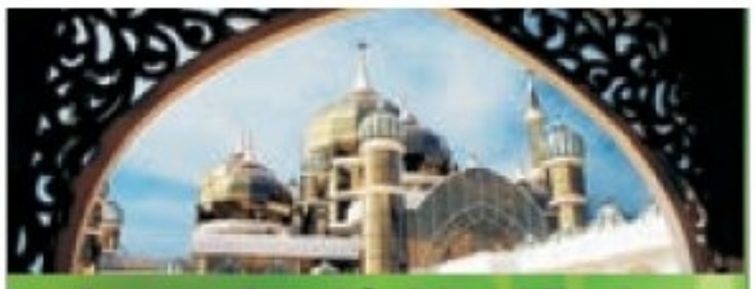
Hours: M-F 8:30-3:30p.m. Sat: 10-2p.m.
267-275-1717 www.dollarsforstrips.com

$$$$ Diabetic Test Strips Needed $$$$
Also Nicoderm CQ patches. Will pay up to $50 per box. Will pick-up.
Call #610.453.2525

$$ CASH PAID $$
BUYING NICOTINE PATCHES / GUM and Diabetic Test Strips
We Pickup
215-395-7100

PSYCHICS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Free pickup!
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SAME DAY PICKUP
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$$$ UP TO $1100.00 $$$
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500.00 CASH $$$
For Any Junk Cars or Trucks
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ENTERTAINMENT

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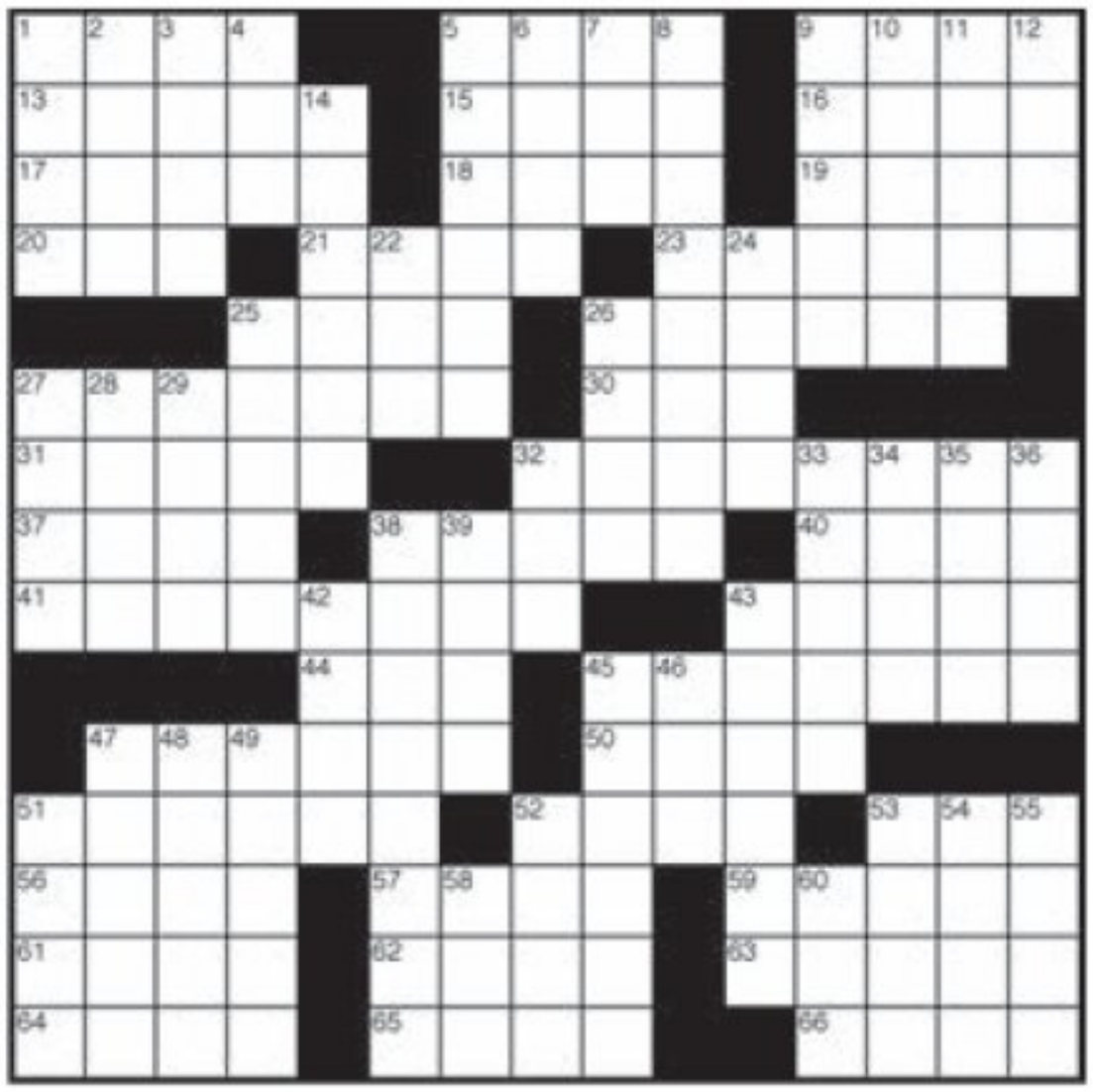

Across

1 Copacetic
5 Twinge
9 Hoarfrost
13 Bedroom community
15 Indiana neighbor
16 PC system
17 More tender
18 End of the earth
19 Jostle
20 Blast maker
21 Slick
23 Boom box sound
25 "Lonely Boy" composer
26 Disparaged
27 Treadmill user
30 Liquid meas.
31 Avoid a big wedding
32 Wrapped up
37 Loughlin or Petty
38 Lewis' exploring partner
40 Cougar's pad
41 Leave work (2 wds.)
43 Oft-quoted catcher
44 Formic acid producer
45 Frozen dessert
47 Busy
50 Put out heat
51 Sniff the air?
52 Familiar auth.
53 Wash against, as waves
56 Slap on hastily
57 Ties up the phone
59 Soul food
61 Nesting place
62 Adams or Brickell
63 Weighs, as evidence
64 Glimpse
65 Oxford tutors
66 Pit

Down

1 Wisecrack
2 Nerve part
3 — Vonnegut Jr.
4 Prior to
5 Pulp tree
6 Popeye's shout
7 Nothing at all
8 Returns (2 wds.)
9 Naive rustics
10 Toughen up
11 Played charades
12 World's fair
14 Eyre's creator
22 Likable prez?
24 Bend an ear
25 Meat jelly
26 Petri-dish goop
27 SOS response
28 Baseball family name
29 Eve's opposite
32 Butter serving
33 On the qui vive
34 Duds
35 Dublin's land
36 Heck!
38 Transported
39 Minstrel's instrument
42 Gardener's dread
43 Earthlings and ETs
45 Knows intuitively
46 Insurance gp.
47 Diarist — Nin
48 Gullible person
49 Cat, informally
51 Still
52 Quite similar
53 DNA context
54 Business letter abbr.
55 Furtive whisper
58 Turmoil
60 Disposed of

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metro.us/sudoku

easy

5				2			1	3
2						5		
				3	9		8	
		9		6	4	8		7
8								1
3		4	9	1		6		
	4		1	5				
		1						4
6	2			4				9

hard

3		2		4				8
			9				1	
5				3		7		2
			4	8		9		5
			2		1			
9		8		6	7			
8		4		7				9
	3				4			
6				1		2		4

metro.us/horoscopes

Aries Attend functions that offer a wealth of information that will help you make crucial decisions about your future. A change in direction will lead to a higher income.

Taurus Try something new. Travel somewhere you've never been before. Break new ground and seek out people who have something to offer you

Gemini Don't let your imagination run wild. Realism will be required to avoid a loss or being taken for granted. Partnerships will need an adjustment if you want them to work.

Cancer Search for creative people who offer positivity and encouragement in order to be inspired. A few of your ideas could be turned into something spectacular.

Leo Don't let anyone ruin your day or plans. It's OK to be unusual or to do things differently. Boost your energy and show everyone exactly what you have to offer.

Virgo Your ability to see the big picture and to formulate the best way to move forward or to bring about change will give you the edge. Networking will build confidence.

Libra You'll be inspired to make personal changes. A short trip or a chance meeting that offers an unusual experience will help build enthusiasm and the courage to pursue your dreams.

Scorpio Follow your desires and don't shy away from doing things your way. An emotional encounter will lead to an interesting discussion and plans with someone special.

Sagittarius Make yourself accountable for any misunderstanding you are a part of. It's important to get your facts right before sharing information. Make personal improvements.

Capricorn Consider an addition to your home or a project that will bring in extra cash for you. Make love a priority and personal gains your goal.

Aquarius Make a point to learn something new. Diversifying your skills will help you jump into a higher earning bracket. A secret is best kept that way for now.

Pisces Don't worry about someone causing a fuss or trying to pick a fight. Concentrate on helping people who are accommodating and grateful. EUGENIA LAST

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DO YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW HAVE MILD ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE?

PRA Health Sciences in Marlton is now seeking individuals with mild Alzheimer's disease for a research study. To qualify for this study, individuals should be male or female between ages 55 and 85. Other than mild Alzheimer's, they should be in general good health. Females should be postmenopausal for at least one year or surgically sterile.

Those who qualify for this study may be compensated for time and travel.

To learn more call PRA Health Sciences today at 844-PRA-PINK or visit Volunteers.prahs.com.

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AS YOU KNOW, CONTROLLING TOURETTE'S IS NOT THIS EASY.

We invite boys and girls aged 6 to 17 with Tourette Syndrome to see if they may qualify for the T-Force Green Study. The primary purpose of this study is to determine the effectiveness, safety, and tolerability of an investigational medication for Tourette Syndrome. Each child who qualifies will receive study medication, study-related medical exams, and study-related laboratory tests at no cost.

To learn more, and to see if your child may qualify, visit TForceGreen.com or call PRA Health Sciences.

T-FORCE GREEN

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Compensation for time and travel may be available

DO KNOW SOMEONE WHO HAS BEEN DIAGNOSED WITH SCHIZOPHRENIA?

If so, this person could qualify for a clinical research study being conducted by PRA Health Sciences in Marlton. To qualify for this study, this male or female should be between ages 18 and 60. He or she should have had at least three months of antipsychotic therapy within the past five years. Females should not be pregnant or about to become pregnant.

Those who qualify for this study may be compensated for their time and travel.

To learn more, call PRA Health Sciences at 844-PRA-PINK (844-772-7465) or visit Volunteers.prahs.com

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